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2020-08-20

## Xavier University Newswire

Xavier University (Cincinnati, Ohio)

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## Fenwick Hall to be renamed

*Submissions open for name recommendations from community*

BY HEATHER GAST  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Bishop Edward Fenwick Hall will be renamed four years after it was discovered that Fenwick, the first president of Xavier University, had owned enslaved people.

Students, faculty, staff and alumni are able to submit recommendations for a new name on the Stained Glass Initiative's (SGI) page on Xavier's website. Submissions will be shared with the community at the Day of R.E.A.D. event as part of the Spirit Celebration on Monday, Sept. 15.

Dr. Charles Walker Gollar of the theology department presented his research revealing the university's connection to slavery in 2016. His presentation was shortly before a string of racial bias incidents rocked campus in a year that was fraught by the killing of unarmed Black citizens by police and tension over the presidential election.

Walker-Gollar's later research showed that early attendees of Xavier were from wealthy families in Louisiana that maintained their wealth through the labor of enslaved people.

Father Michael Graham, president, called for an association of staff, faculty and students called the Working Group to form in 2017. This group was created to evaluate how the university could move toward racial reconciliation. The following year, the Working Group recommended that the resident hall be renamed.

The members of the community did not agree on this unilaterally. There was concern that removing the name would erase the university's history.

"It was Father Graham who said from the beginning that he wanted this to be about more than a name change. It



*News wire photo by Desmond Fischer.*

**Four years after it was discovered that Bishop Edward Fenwick had owned enslaved people, the residence hall that houses the Hoff Dining Commons will be renamed. Members of the Xavier community can submit name recommendations until Aug. 31. Submissions will be presented on Sept. 15**

was an opportunity for us to learn a little bit more about who we are and how our Jesuit values ought to compel us to participate in racial healing and restoration in a way that's more authentic," Dr. Kyra Shahid, Director of the Center for Diversity and Inclusion and Chair of the SGI, said.

Just as the changing of Fenwick's name is not meant to erase Xavier's past, it is not meant to be an end to Xavier's work on racial healing.

As a scholar on anti-Black racism and a Black woman, Shahid is keenly aware of the effects that slavery holds over America and institutions of higher learning specifically. "My approach to this work has been about making sure

that we don't put a period where there should be a comma," she said.

The conversations around Fenwick's past have come alongside processing the events of racial injustice since 2016.

As an administrator and professor, Shahid is adamant about addressing both past horrors and today's injustices in tandem.

"It's not like slavery happened and it was over. There are some pieces of slavery that are still in place right now. What we do in September (during the Spirit Day) is going to be about helping people to see the commas more clearly."

"Race and racism impacts

all areas of human activity right so whether we knew it or not, all of our lives were already being impacted I think now more people are consciously aware of that impact and do a collective desire to do something better," Shahid said.

Since the Working Group's recommendations, the SGI was created and has hosted and maintained opportunities such as Day of R.E.A.D. and Diasporic Soul for students of African descent. Such spaces serve as opportunities for students to grapple with the meaning of racial reconciliation and restitution as students at a university that profited off of slavery and as individuals.

Shahid recognizes that this multi-year process has taught her a lot about Xavier.

"One of the things I've learned is that Xavier is fertile ground; there is room to grow and change and evolve," she said, speaking to the generous support she and her team have gotten over the past four years from staff.

It's not only staff's contributions she values, "This year we really want to hear from students... I want to make sure that there are more student voices involved with SGI specifically... We can create a space for you to exercise that passion."

Students interested can fill out the contact form on SGI's page on the Xavier website.

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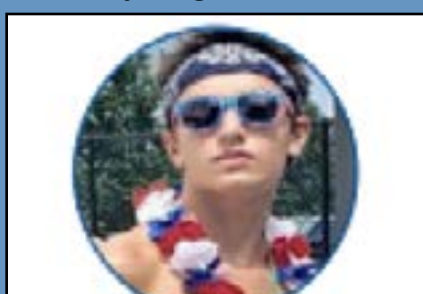
#### Campus News, Page 2

Xavier has put forth robust contact tracing protocols to track COVID-19.



#### Op-Eds, Page 4

Will Rippey proposes private shipping companies should be nationally regulated.



#### Op-Eds, Page 4

Three intramural sports have been approved to compete this fall.



#### A&E, Page 7

Ho99o9's new mix-tape, *BLURR*, employs horror-inspired sounds.





# Tracking COVID-19 among students

## XU and TriHealth are implementing contact tracing to track COVID-19

By ALEX BUDZYNSKI  
Managing Editor

As a part of Xavier's COVID-19 Testing, Treatment and Tracing plan, the university has developed in-depth contact tracing protocols to protect the wellbeing of students who have tested positive for COVID-19.

Contact tracing involves identifying those who are likely to get sick after being around someone who has contracted COVID-19. In conjunction with TriHealth, Xavier is prepared to help students recall everyone they have come into close contact with recently, thereby tracing the spread of the virus on campus.

Close contact is defined as anyone that has been less than six feet apart for more than 15 minutes.

Associate Provost and Chief Student Affairs Officer Dave Johnson explained the necessity of a robust contact tracing program. "A really important part of the puzzle (of returning to campus) is being able to trace and to track the engagement of students who might be COVID-19 positive so that we can identify anyone else who may have been impacted," he said.

If a student tests positive for COVID-19 they will initially be contacted by staff from health services, advising

them to self-isolate and monitor their symptoms.

If it is safe and feasible for that student to return to their home or family, that it will be recommended they do so.

Residential students who do not have the ability to return to their primary residence will be moved to the isolation spaces on campus -- the University Apartments or Manor House.

Those who test positive and anyone who has been in close contact will likely be isolated or quarantined for two weeks. Simultaneously, COVID-positive students will be contacted by additional resources, including care management officials and contact tracers.

Contact tracers are individuals from across the Xavier community trained to support students through the tracing process.

They will assist students in completing a questionnaire that will determine close contacts. This list would likely include roommates and close friends.

"Our hope is that people won't have lots of close contacts, and if they do, we will capture that and communicate with them," Johnson said.

In the coming days, a COVID-19 Dashboard will be made available on the Xavier website, which will document the number of COVID cases

reported to Xavier.

Those identified as close contacts will be advised to have a COVID-19 test. The classmates of the infected student will also be contacted via email.

"Let's say that someone in your class was to be diagnosed COVID-19 positive... so far as you have abided by our recommended safe practices, remaining six feet apart and remaining masked, we don't think you're at significant risk," Johnson said. "We think the campus has been redesigned in a way to maximize students' safety."

Along the same lines, student programs are organized in a way that abides by social distancing guidelines, so as to minimize risk at on-campus events.

Privacy is a priority of the university throughout this process. Personal information will not be divulged to any member of the community that is contacted.

Associate Dean of Students Jean Griffin explained that each case will have its own nuances.

"What we are learning is that it will be a pretty individualized process," she said.

The university is prepared to help students through any sort of academic distress, food insecurity, mental health problems or other challenges they are facing.



Photo courtesy of Xavier.edu  
The Testing, Treatment and Tracing plan is part of several precautions by the university to ensure the fall semester is safe for people on campus.

"We want to support any student who is or may be impacted by COVID-19," Johnson said.

"The most important thing is that people fully participate in these processes," Johnson explained. "Contact tracing is one of the keys to stopping the spread, so we want to fully commit to our Testing, Treatment, Tracing Program."

Griffin coupled this by speaking to the uncharted territory this pandemic brings the university.

"We have to keep this going because it is new to all us, it is hard to process sometimes, so we will see this in an ongoing way through posts and events," she said.

Information about the Testing, Treatment, Tracing Plan from the Office of Student Affairs is being shared through the @LifeatXU Instagram page.

# First week back: anyone know what's going on?

By EMILIE KRACIK  
Staff Writer

As we work on getting our academic journeys back on track, things are looking a lot different. We decided to ask fellow Musketeers how the beginning of the semester has been.



"The first week of classes has definitely been crazy. I'm really happy my clinicals and labs are in person, but hybrid classes have been pretty tough to figure out in such a short period of time."

- Molly Grimes,  
Junior nursing major



"It's been difficult getting used to the hybrid system because it's hard to know which days to go into class and which days to Zoom, but I am happy Xavier is making it work, and we can be on campus at least some of the time."

- Jimmy Maguire  
First-year finance major



"Having to do Zoom last semester during quarantine made getting used to classes this semester much easier. I have one hybrid class and I like it. It's nice to get back in the classroom instead of just sitting in my house looking at a Zoom screen all day."

- Ryan Petrunia  
Junior finance major



"It feels great to be on campus and in touch with friends and faculty. It's definitely different though, having hybrid classes, less caf accessibility, and finding more creative ways to socialize."

- Sean Trebb  
Junior sports management major



"It seems like everyone has adjusted well to COVID-19 protocol and wearing masks on campus."

Hybrid classes have been challenging to get used to, but I have a lot of friends from home who are all online and can't go to school, so I'm happy to be here."

- Tommy Gorman  
First-year business undecided major



# Photo-op: the Biden-Harris ticket

## XU students shared their thoughts on Biden’s historic VP announcement

By JOSEPH COTTON  
*Campus News Editor*

We asked students their thoughts on former Vice President Joe Biden’s choice of Senator Kamala Harris as his running mate in the 2020 presidential election. Here’s what they said.



“I wasn’t thrilled about the pick, but I know why he did it. I’m glad he picked a woman of color and I will still end up voting for him.”

- Gabby Straub  
First-year German major



“I believe she contributed a system of oppression by dehumanizing trans women in the prison system. I’m not a fan of her as a person, but I will still be voting for the Biden/Harris ticket because I don’t like Trump.”

- Emily Hoose  
Junior chemistry major



“(Harris) was a pick that people expected. She was a front-runner in a contested vice presidential race between at least three women. Harris’ experience as an attorney general will work for Democrats but not so much for progressives. She has a reputation for being harsh and tough on crime. I think (progressives) will get on board, but they won’t be happy.”

- Andrew Geraghty  
Junior Philosophy, Politics and the Public major



“It’s a great idea for Joe Biden given that she is a woman of color. It’s good for people to have someone who represents them in their moral values and in the way she looks. She can be a great role model for people who look like her in their future success.”

- Jeremy Blatt  
Junior Philosophy, Politics and the Public major



“(The pick) is probably a smart move because of all the stuff happening in the U.S., including Black Lives Matter protests and COVID-19. I think it shows that (Biden) is involved with the things that are happening.”

- Micheal Sullivan  
First-year accounting major

# POLICE NOTES

XUPD Chief Robert Warfel has taken a role of the COVID-19 Task Force as the Director of Public Safety. He has been involved with the Task Force since its creation last school year.

XUPD has adapted to the pandemic by utilizing protective barriers while fingerprinting and using an open-air golf cart for medical escorts.

Due to financial reasons brought on by the pandemic, Xavier University offered employees a voluntary separation. Four XUPD employees opted for the voluntary separation.

Over the summer, XUPD completed enhanced training and community service. The department assisted in transporting over 5,000 meals for Freestore Foodbank at the Evanston Recreation Center. Officers

## NOTE OF THE WEEK

Officer Bill Smith was integral to connecting a string of Norwood, Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky robberies of which one Xavier student was a victim. The perpetrator of these robberies allegedly forced victims to go to an ATM to withdraw money, which Officer Smith recognized as similar to the Xavier case. The case is now closed.

also worked on park clean-up and beautification at one park in the Evanston community.

Lt. Shaun Bryce left the XUPD and took a job as a police captain at the University of Utah.

XUPD is no longer accepting low-value items for their lost and found. They encourage students only to bring high-value items with

which officers could identify the owner, in order to reduce risk of transmission of COVID-19.

XUPD recommends that found clothing be dropped off in the St. Vincent DePaul box behind the Kuhlman Hall, and that found phones be donated in the donation boxes located in Gallagher Student Center.

Visitor parking passes will no longer be issued at the XUPD station on campus.

Chief Mike Couch accepted a voluntary separation and will now be working part-time as an officer with the XUPD.

XUPD received a new fleet of police cruisers, including three Chevy Tahoes, one Dodge Charger and one Ford Explorer. These cars will be designed with new graphics and will be all-white.

## Week in Review

### Medical WAP, ethics and NFL disguises

- After conservative political commentator Ben Shapiro read through the lyrics to “WAP,” by Cardi B and Megan Thee Stallion, he questioned the health of women with “wet ass pussies.” He shared that his “doctor wife” diagnosed women who required “a bucket and a mop” with bacterial vaginosis and yeast infections among other conditions. DJ iMarkkeyz created a remix of “WAP” with the audio of Shapiro reading the lyrics.(Aug. 11).
- Former Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder was removed as State Speaker of the House after rean indictment surrounding racketeering and bribery charges, but will remain on the Ohio Joint Legislative Ethics Committee (Aug. 13).
- Mississippi officials narrowed down the list of citizen state flag design proposals after announcing that they will remove their current design, which depicted a Confederate flag. Officials accidentally included one design which prominently displayed a large pixelated graphic of a mosquito at the center of the flag (Aug. 14).

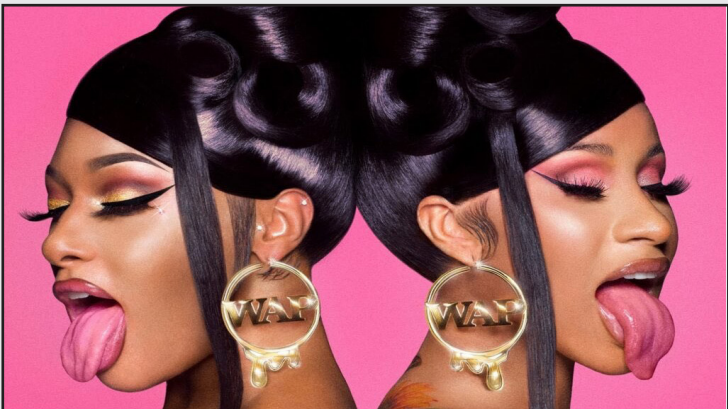


Photo courtesy of Twitter  
Cardi B and Megan Thee Stallion’s song “WAP” sparked online disputes.



# Please don't make me go home

To any first-years reading this, welcome to Xavier, and to everyone else, welcome back. We've been given a gift in being allowed to return, a gift we can easily squander.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC), the state's flagship campus, announced that it would move to an entirely online format this week. The announcement came after 135 of UNC's students tested positive for COVID-19. The positive tests were composed of four clusters. A virus cluster is defined as five or more positive cases within close proximity to each other.

Similarly, the University of Notre Dame announced they would cease in person classes following 147 positive cases. Both announcements came eight days into the fall semester.

While UNC and No-

tre Dame are schools with significantly more students than Xavier, what happened there can and will happen at Xavier. We will have cases. We will be sent home. Unless we can make some sacrifices.

Below are a list of actions we must take lest we want to be sent home.

- Wear a mask, preferably one without vents.
- Don't take off your mask in public.
- Don't pull your mask away from your face to speak or yell. It must be snug on your face, over your nose and under your chin.
- Cover your nose with your mask. COVID-19 can still spread through your nose.
- Don't eat indoors. It does not matter that Ohio allows indoor dining or that

Xavier allows it. Studies have shown COVID-19 spreads easily during indoor dining. Both Rhode Island and Michigan saw cases increase following the opening of indoor dining and cases decrease following the prohibition of indoor dining.

- Don't go to bars. For the same reasons you should not eat indoors at Currito or Canes, you should not be inside Listermans or Dana's.
- Don't go to parties. Yes, that includes outdoor parties. No gatherings of more than 10 people are remotely safe.
- Don't have random hookups. If you do choose to have casual sex, wear a mask, use a condom and don't

be face to face.

- Please open windows whenever possible. The more air circulation, the safer a room is. If possible, run at least one fan in your room.
- Please stay at least six feet apart from other people, even if you are outside, even if you are masked and even if you have hung out with them before.
- Do not share juuls, or drinks, or cigs, or pens or joints. This should be obvious.
- Wash your masks regularly. Masks can be breeding grounds for bacteria. Not COVID-19, but still not fun.

Do all of these rules suck? Absolutely. You know what would suck more? Going home and spending day and night in your child-

hood bedroom for another six months. Sharing a room with your little brother and dealing with parents who won't let you drink. Being miles away from all of your friends. Needing to Zoom for every single class. Being hospitalized, or intubated or dying. Being the reason you need to bury a loved one.

Everything sucks right now. Wear a mask, be smart and lets make this suck a little bit less.



Charlie Gstalder is the Opinions and Editorials for the *NewsWire*. Charlie is an English and philosophy double major from Westchester, N.Y.

# Seize the postal services

Lately, the United States Postal Service (USPS) has been getting a lot of attention. The USPS has been under attack from the Trump administration, which has been defunding it and removing mailboxes in major cities.

This sparked conversations of what the future of the agency will be. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and the agency's financial losses, many have advocated for the privatization of the USPS.

I would like to propose an alternative plan for the future of mailing in the United States. Rather than privatizing the USPS, I believe it would be much more beneficial to nationalize the privately-owned shipping companies that already exist.

This may seem like harmful government overreach, but there are two major effects of nationalization which would greatly benefit our mail infrastructure.

In 2018, Stanford conducted a study of vari-

ous Chinese firms. The study found that state owned enterprises exhibited productivity rates 68% higher than that of their private counterparts. Furthermore, a study by Greenwich University in London found that nationalizing utility companies would save the UK approximately 7.8 billion GBP per year.

If the USPS were privatized, our mail infrastructure would become less efficient and more expensive. Conversely, if UPS and FedEx were nationalized, both companies would become more efficient.

This would obviously be a costly measure as the fifth amendment requires the owners of any seized property to be compensated for their losses. However, the University of Greenwich also highlights the fact that the cost of compensation would be paid off in under 10 years if the nationalizations were to occur.

Nationalization of post-

al companies would greatly benefit sellers and consumers as well. Compared to its private competitors, the USPS is much cheaper for individuals and corporations.

Individual shipping costs with USPS are anywhere from \$8 to \$70 cheaper than private companies. Additionally, major retailers such as Amazon still rely on USPS for deliveries to rural areas. USPS also delivers far more packages than UPS or Fedex each year, at 143 billion compared to UPS's 4.7 billion and Fedex's 3 million.

Privatizing the USPS would increase costs of shipping, thereby leading to less revenue for retailers and more expenses for individuals.

While nationalization seems scary to us as Americans who are already conditioned to vomit at the thought of the government intervening in the free market, UPS and FedEx are actually exceptions to the wide

range of essential services already publicly owned in the United States.

Eighty-seven percent of water suppliers in the United States are municipally owned as of 2019 according to the University of Greenwich study. Greenwich also found that municipally owned electricity agencies provide power to approximately 49 million people even in major urban centers such as Los Angeles.

There have been 70 cases of water re-municipalization since 2003, and research in the city of San Francisco found that public ownership of its power grid will have long term financial benefits for the city.

Many would argue that these services are far more important than mail and that they should not be compared. I, however, would argue that mail, water and electricity are equally important to our infrastructure.

As electronic commerce continues to dominate the

domestic and global market, shipping is becoming a vital utility for both consumers and businesses. Online sellers and, by extension thier customers, rely just as much on shipping as they do on electricity.

Nationalizing shipping would guarantee stable service, lower prices for businesses and individuals and secure jobs for USPS workers whose livelihoods are directly threatened by right-wing attempts to dismantle it and privatize the industry entirely.



Will Rippey is a staff writer for the *NewsWire*. Will is a sophomore Philosophy Politics and the Public major from Bowling Green, Ohio.

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### Mission Statement

The Xavier *NewsWire* is committed to reporting the news as well as explain its significance to readers. In addition, through publishing opposing viewpoints and opinions, the *NewsWire* hope to foster a dialogue on campus, among students, faculty and staff.

### Advertising

All inquiries should be directed to the Editor-in-Chief, Heather Gast, at 513-745-3561, by email at newswire@xavier.edu or at www.xavier-newswire.com

### For Your Information

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# Just have a little fun wit' it

Let me start off with a warning: I'm not usually one to write opinion pieces. I'm not usually one to write anything serious at all. The only opinion piece I've ever written was one that made fun of other opinion pieces. So don't expect some life-changing revelation at the end of this.

I know that's usually what you want from an opinion piece, but hasn't the whole theme of this year been not getting what you want? Even though the writing was on the wall by February that we'd be sent back, everyone was still shocked when it happened. I think that's because deep down no one wanted it to happen.

I love sitting inside watching TV all day, but that wasn't enough to compensate for only being able to hang out with my family. Maybe that's a little

harsh on my family. I actually ended up having a lot of fun with them. Quarantine is a fantastic time to discover just how much your parents drink.

I mean, I suppose there's no better time to down five glasses of wine than on a Monday board game night with your children when you don't have to go into work the next morning, but that's not a lesson I thought I'd learn from my mom.

I actually learned a lot of lessons this quarantine from unexpected sources. Particularly Jewish children.

This summer, I wanted to work at a job that would be relevant to me and my future career. I ended up only finding work at a Jewish summer camp, despite the fact I am not Jewish nor do I have any intentions to work in childcare.

But you know who else had absolutely no interest in being there? The kids. They were miserable. They had no interest in sitting in the hot sun learning about

*I suppose there's no better time to down five glasses of wine than on a Monday board game night with your children when you don't have to go into work the next morning, but that's not a lesson I thought I'd learn from my mom.*

antine, but she made the most of it and had a great time. I didn't want to work at a Jewish summer camp, but I turned it around and learned not just a lot about

life as a whole.


So how's this for a twist ending: There is a life-changing revelation at the end of this opinion piece!

But it's as simple as can be: just have fun with whatever you're doing. I'm a goofy guy and I was told to write a serious opinion piece. So what did I do? I had fun with it! I brought my back page energy to the Opinions page.

Here's the obvious way it

applies to you, dear reader: This isn't the semester any of us wanted, especially if you're a first-year. But if you just sit around dwelling on how it could have been better, you'll never enjoy it for what it is. So take this weird semester and have as much fun with it as you can.

To quote Sherly Crow, "It's not having what you want, it's wanting what you've got."



Aidan Callahan is a junior english major from Wilton, Conn. Aidan is the backpage editor for the *Newswire*.

# Let people pick their futures

I remember the day clearly. May 1, 2018. The college counselors beamed with joy because every single one of the nearly four hundred seniors had matriculated to a college. After all, I attended a college prep school, so I entered as a first-year knowing the end goal.

But during my first year of college, I found out that some of my former classmates dropped out of college to attend trade

schools or community colleges for two-year degrees. While my school had good intentions, students should be encouraged to make the decision they feel is best for them.

Other options, such as trade schools, should be destigmatized and should not be viewed as lesser than a four-year university.

The college education system may be for me, but it is definitely not for everyone. It is not an insult to those who work in higher education; it is just the way it is.

We all have different abilities and talents, and trying to shove college down everyone's throats simply ignores that. Trade

schools offer a vastly different approach than a college environment, as they tend to be more hands-on with much smaller class sizes than the courses you would typically see at a college.

The stigma of trade school is in part due to viewing jobs such as welding and plumbing as inferior to college degree professions. But in what manner would they be inferior?

A common argument is that you would make far less without a college degree. While that is true to an extent, some trade school professions make more than college degree

holders.

According to glassdoor.com, an entry level welder for Ohio would make around \$40,000 for a year. An entry level plumber would make around \$50,000. This is as much as, if not more than, an entry level journalist, teacher or social worker would make.


That is not to brand those professions as inferior, but to show that associating the worth of a profession with money is not always valid.

It is correct that those in trade schools and those seeking two-year degrees would have less "education," as the typical college experience is four or more years. Their curriculum consists solely of the field that they want to enter and core classes that can take up to two years of a college students' career are non existent.

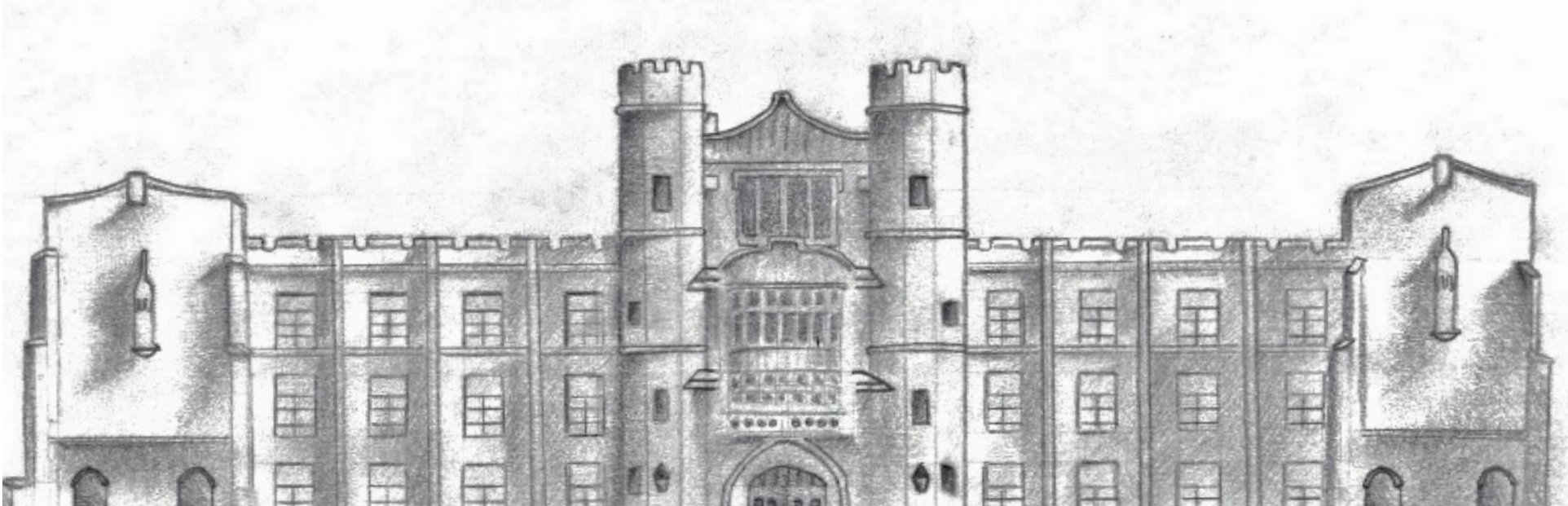
So, they essentially have less debt than the typical college student, and as trade professions are always in dire need of people, they are also likely to get into the workforce quicker.

So, what exactly would make attending a trade school or two-year college inferior to attending a four-year college? Is it the "majority rules" premise, which is based on the notion that since more people go to four-year colleges than trade schools, the former must be superior to the latter?

There once was a time not so long ago when colleges were not viewed as a "rite of passage" into adulthood. I hope we can revert back to that as people should not rack up five figures in debt for something that is not their calling in life.



Andrew Zerman is a junior English major. He is a staff writer for the *News-wire* from Cleveland, Ohio.





# Three intramural sports offered

*Sand volleyball, softball, and kickball will be available for students this fall*

BY ANDREW ZERMAN  
Staff Writer

As the 2020-2021 school year starts, many things remain uncertain. One thing that is not is that fall intramural sports will occur this year.

Intramural sports are slated to start in late August and conclude by the middle of September.

Sports to be offered include softball, sand volleyball, and kickball.

However, this intramural season is not going to be without modifications, as safety is a primary focus.

The typical fall sports of flag football and soccer will not be offered this year because they involve frequent contact among players. Instead, intramural sports will be offering the other sports.

"These were sports that we could still do while maintaining social distancing. We are also going to be making the sand volleyball matches four against four only," Recreational Sports Director Leslie Dulle said.

Sand volleyball and softball have both historically been spring sports at Xavier,



Photo Courtesy of Xavier Intramural Sports

**Softball will be one of the three intramural sports offered by Xavier this fall. Students do not have to wear masks when playing due to the nature of the sports offered, but will have to remain socially distanced on the bench.**

but for the sake of having enough sports to offer this fall, it was moved up.

"Sand volleyball is one of our most popular sports," Dulle said. "With the exception of basketball, it is our most popular sport."

This semester will also

offer only co-ed teams for sand volleyball, which deviates from past years where there were gendered leagues offered in addition to co-ed leagues.

Unlike working out inside the Health United Building (HUB), there will be no re-

quirement to wear a mask when playing, since all of the sports offered this fall will be outside and socially distanced. Those who want to wear one, however, can do so.

Dulle noted that there will be rule enforcers throughout the games.

"There will be managers out in the intramural program who will be making sure that spectators are not gathering because that will make things [following policies] difficult, she said.

"They will also be making sure that everyone on the roster is playing and that social distancing is being maintained," she continued.

Despite a far different environment than previous seasons, it is envisioned that there will not be much of a decline in intramural participation.

"Our real habitual team players play for more than just the sport," Dulle said. "It is also a great social activity and a great way to get to know people."

"I'm hopeful that people will play sports that are being offered this fall, even if they are not the ones that we typically offer," she said.

In addition to participating in sports, students are encouraged to check out the intramural sports pages on social media @xuimsports for updates on the status of intramural sports and any changes that may occur.

## Blazers, Nuggets try to stay hot in the bubble

*Both teams are looking to go on a playoff run after early first round wins*

BY JOSEPH COTTON  
Campus News Editor

The unprecedented NBA "bubble" is moving into its second phase as eight teams from each conference are preparing for the playoffs.

While the top contenders are still the Clippers, Bucks and Lakers, several teams have made their case for why they shouldn't be left out of the public imagination.

Chief among these teams is the Denver Nuggets. In last year's playoffs, the Nuggets had a solid run in the playoffs that ended in a second round exit after a hard fought seven game series to the Portland Trail Blazers.

This year's playoff picture is looking quite different from last years, however, with two breakout additions to the Nuggets' lineup: Bol Bol and Michael Porter Jr.

The contributions from these two will make them a hard match up for the Utah Jazz in the first round, as well as any team they meet after. I can see the Nuggets making a deep playoff run and making it to the Finals. Bol, the son of former NBA star Manute Bol, was drafted earlier this year to further his development after missing most of his only college season due to a knee injury.

Bol is a 7'2" center who has



Photo courtesy of Bleacher Report

**Damian Lillard has been on fire for the Blazers in the NBA Bubble, and helped lead them to a Game one upset win over the heavily favored Los Angeles Lakers. Lillard averaged 37.5 points per game during the NBA restart.**

shown a knack for good positioning, rebounds and blocks, as well as scoring in transition.

Bol has also been scorching the net from behind the three point line in the bubble, shooting at 44.4% from behind the arc.

While Bol didn't play in the Nuggets' Game one overtime win, there's a chance he could see some run down the stretch this postseason.

Michael Porter Jr. also had a string of breakout games after an admittedly bad opening performance in the bubble.

Porter ended the bubble regular season averaging 26 points and nine rebounds per game all while shooting an efficient 58.7% from the field. Look for both of these young up-and-comers to contribute at both ends of the floor.

The Trail Blazers are also a must-watch team for the

2020 playoffs. Despite barely holding onto the final eighth seed spot in the playoffs, the Blazers have been on fire as of late due to the insane contributions coming from Damian Lillard.

Lillard averaged 37.3 points per game and 9.6 assists. Lillard also shot 49.7% from the field and 43.6% from three.

In addition to Lillard, Jusuf Nurkic has proven to be

the Blazers' defensive backbone with great instincts and athleticism, and CJ McCollum has been a solid option as well. Carmelo Anthony, acquired earlier this season as a free agent, has also been clutch for the Blazers.

All these factors make them a nightmare match up for the No. 1 seed Lakers, and with the Blazers winning Game one, the series will definitely be one to watch.

It's a classic "David and Goliath" situation with the Lakers and LeBron James as the assumed kings of the league and the Blazers and Damian Lillard as the red-hot underdogs.

Another matchup to keep an eye on is the Houston Rockets and the Oklahoma City Thunder.

The Rockets traded Chris Paul and draft picks to the Thunder in return for Russell Westbrook this offseason.

The matchup will have some intriguing storylines and passion as Chris Paul might have a bit of bad blood with his former team.

Besides the drama, the matchup will be a clash of styles, pitting the fairly boring style of play the Thunder have utilized this year against the modern, smallball three-point heavy attack the Rockets have used under coach Mike D'Antoni.



# Opinion: the end of Hollywood?

BY BEN THOMSON  
*Staff Writer*

In 2019 the big movie event of the summer was undoubtedly *Avenger's: Endgame*, a massive three-hour superhero epic. In 2020, the big movie event of the year was a four-year-old *Hamilton* performance.

The future of Hollywood has never been more uncertain than it is right now. Nearly six months after theaters shut down, major studios have been forced to rethink their release strategy and adapt to the new world ushered in by COVID-19.

So far, the film industry has been struggling to see past the short term, underestimating how long the pandemic will actually last. Look no further than Warner Bros.' handling of Christopher Nolan's *Tenet*.

Warner Bros. initially refused to delay the film, confident it would still be profitable during a pandemic. Then, a few days before the film was supposed to come out, Warner Bros. pushed the release back two weeks.

This would happen two more times before *Tenet* was officially delayed indefinitely.

While at first glance cases like *Tenet* are a bad look for Hollywood, there's not much else they can do. It's important to remember how much money these summer releases need to make in order to be profitable.

A movie like *Tenet* needs to make at least \$800 million to make back its budget of \$200 million (plus however much was spent on marketing).

So, while it's easy to say studios should release to streaming services, in reality it would be a financially suicidal move that could have disastrous effects. And the ones that are taking that chance are doing so at the risk of alienating their audiences.

Disney, for instance, faced harsh criticism when it announced *Mulan* would be on Disney+ for a fee of \$30, a model that, on paper, is successful and would make up for the lost sales that a digital release usually comes with. But if nobody's willing to buy, the model isn't going to work.

So, what's the solution? That's difficult to answer.

At the moment, *Tenet* is releasing later this month everywhere but the United States. Is this move potentially profitable? Possibly. Are there still devastating risks



Photo courtesy of Wikipedia.com

**Films have taken a hard hit due to the global pandemic, sparking fears that the film industry and Hollywood may never return to its state before the start of 2020 and that we may lose theatres entirely in the near future.**

that will determine the future of Warner Bros.? Absolutely.

The big one is internet piracy. Suppose the yanks get their hands on a Canadian bootleg of *Tenet* before it even gets a chance to release in the U.S. Why should they wait for theaters to reopen if they can just watch the movie for free?

Sure, theaters are beginning to open back up, but how long is that going to last?

Even if its current model works, a theater with limited capacity means fewer tickets will be sold. It's a game of trial and error, and the stakes have never been higher.

For now, Hollywood's future is up in the air. Nobody can say for sure what direction the industry will choose.

The only real winner of 2020 is going to be Netflix, but who knows how much

of a ripple effect that'll have through Hollywood and the rest of the film industry.

At the very least it's comforting to know that at least one studio will be around to release movies.

At this point I don't care who makes the movie and where they decide to make it available. As long as they're being made, I think we'll be okay.

# Hip-hop group wows audience with new mixtape

BY WILL RIPPEY  
*Staff Writer*

The Newark underground hip-hop group Ho99o9 (pronounced "horror") dropped their latest EP, *Blurr*, last Thursday.

Their unique brand of hardcore punk fused with industrial hip-hop first caught the public eye in 2014, with their release of *Bone Collector*.

Described as horror rap by critics, the group draws inspiration from horror movies, industrial music, gangsta rap and black metal to create a sound unparalleled by any of their contemporaries.

*Blurr* immediately kicks the listener into the deep end with one of my favorite songs on the album, "Beneath the Earth's Crust."

Following a sampled news report on the rising popularity of heavy metal music amongst the youth, a wall of distorted guitar immediately crushes the listener as ghostly lyrics embellish the noise.

The heavy guitar distortion, coupled with the vocal samples, could easily serve as the opening track for an '80s sci-fi horror movie and in my eyes (or ears) is a perfect opener for the album.

The mixtape phases into a more hip-hop oriented segment following the first track. "Lex Luger" features an ee-



Photo courtesy of Flickr.com

**Underground hip-hop group Ho99o9's new and unique EP is titled Blurr. This punk-infused industrial hip-hop mixtape has a number of standout songs that feature a variety of one-of-a-kind synthetic vocals and sounds.**

rie unsteady Death Grips-esque beat with gangsta rap vocal delivery and incredible production.

"Flesh and Blood" is another standout track for me, featuring a punk song structure and vocals but with hip-hop production.

My favorite song on the record by far is "Sleep Paralysis." The song initially appears to be a bit of an adrenaline killer after the first four songs. It continues the scary production of the first few tracks, but tones it down a bit while a sample from *A Nightmare on Elm Street* plays.

The lyrics in this section are fantastic; they remind me of something your friends tell you will summon a demon if you chant it into the mirror at summer camp. Immediately, the song abruptly transitions to manic lyrics about violence and money.

The song "Hardcore" is another highlight of the mixtape. It's a great combo breaker from the rest of the album, featuring noticeably softer production and lyrics than the rest of the record.

On an album where so much of the music is hardcore punk rap, it's nice to

have a song that I can listen to on impulse. "Hardcore" is immediately followed by "Dog Sh\*t," "Movie Night," "Navigate" and "Firefly Family," all of which feature the overwhelming harshness the record has conditioned us too. "Dog Sh\*t" has a very Black Flag vibe to it with the fuzz guitars and shouted vocals, but also features many of the strange synthetic embellishments of the other songs.

"Movie Night" is a sparse, atmospheric track with metallic production and reminds me a lot of the primitive industrial acts of the '80s.

"Navigate," another very industrial song, is much more chaotic with extra noise and distorted screamed vocals.

The most interesting part of this song was the sample at the end discussing various types of vaccinations and anti-viral drugs, as if to suggest that the sonic hellscape this album creates is a reality we currently live in.

The final track, "Firefly Family," is an absolute punk anthem, featuring very little synthetic interference. With the exception of some clipping on the vocals, the song is 3 minutes and 52 seconds of low fidelity noise.

I was extremely impressed by Ho99o9's performance on this record. I had never heard of them up until now and their willingness and ability to push boundaries with their music is incredible.

That being said, this is definitely not an easy listening album, and anyone listening should expect a fair amount of noise.

I would highly recommend this album to anyone who likes punk, Death Grips or is in the process of planning their Halloween warehouse rave.

Total score:



# Get to know the Class of 2024

BY CHARLIE GSTALDER  
*Opinions and Editorials Editor*

A new semester has arrived and so has the class of 2024. We at the Back Page decided we wanted to get to know these little rascals, so we rounded up as many as we could (six) to ask them the most revealing question we could come up with:

**Exactly how many beavers would it take to overthrow the United States government?**



“If they’re a close relative of Perry the Platypus, about five.”

**Caiden Young**  
First-year sports management major



“At least three because three is better than two.”

**Aaron Ripley**  
First-year computer science major



“100,000 because many small enemies are bigger than one big one, and beavers are kinda cute so that’s their advantage.”

**Benjamin Seibert**  
First-year biology major



“10,000 because beavers are pretty small, so it would require a lot.”

**Michael Sullivan**  
First-year accounting major



“One beaver because everything’s kinda falling apart right now.”

**Hannah Parker**  
First-year biomedical sciences major



“A couple thousand at least because we are one of the strongest governments in the world.”

**Kenzie Cester**  
First-year psychology major



**Aries:** You’ve got a worse case of two-facedness than the Blue Blob’s Diner Burger 513.



**Leo:** Soon all classes will be online, and the only purpose of coming to campus will have been to move to a quarantine where your mom doesn’t do your dishes.



**Sagittarius:** Go to the caf this week and enter a bizarro world where the pizza line is longer than the pasta line.



**Taurus:** You won’t be lucky in love this week. The object of your affection will studentzone you — just like they always do!



**Virgo:** The reviews are in, and critics think the horoscopes were too PG last year. So from now on, Virgos will always receive a condom recommendation. This week, it’s Trojan Ultra-Thicks.



**Capricorn:** Don’t be afraid to repeat yourself! *The Newswire* had three photo-ops this week, and we’re not ashamed of it!



**Gemini:** Your mask can say a lot about who you are as a person, so maybe don’t just wear the school-provided one. Ya cheapskate.



**Libra:** The stars have been sending Zoom bombs to Xavier classes to lighten up the mood. They haven’t sent any to your classes because they hate you.



**Aquarius:** Carefully consider how you present yourself in Zoom classes. Are you wearing pajamas in bed, or are you boring?



**Cancer:** Try a fun new game this week: guess exactly how many guys in your Zoom class are ignoring the lecture and playing *Fall Guys*.



**Scorpio:** Getting written up during the first week back is a fantastic idea if you’re trying to set a new world record for the “Getting Expelled from Xavier” speedrun.



**Pisces:** Don’t fall for Xavier’s “Test, Treat, Trace” scheme; it’s just a ploy so Father Graham can plant a microchip in your brain.

## Fictionary

Your weekly well of wacky words™



BY TESS BREWER  
*Staff Writer*



**Maxperated** (*mask-PER-ate-ed*): Annoyance one feels when seeing another without their GOVERNMENT MANDATED FACE COVERING on in a public place.

**Maskthmatic** (*mask-MAH-dick*): The loss of breath one experiences while exerting themselves with a face covering.

**Formaskities** (*for-MASK-ih-tees*): The basic politeness of mask wearing.  
*Ex: Formaskities maketh the man.*

*The Return of  
the Word Search*

Return  
Maxperated  
Beaver  
Cheapskate  
Maskthmatic  
Rascal  
Condom  
Formaskities  
Platypus  
Bizarro

M	A	X	P	E	R	A	T	E	D
F	Q	P	V	H	T	C	T	K	B
O	B	I	Z	A	R	R	O	U	E
R	E	T	U	R	N	J	C	K	A
M	W	S	T	M	X	C	H	N	V
A	D	V	T	A	P	B	E	G	E
S	C	Y	Y	S	J	P	A	P	R
K	K	O	L	K	Z	R	P	L	M
I	R	U	U	T	C	U	S	A	V
T	A	N	B	H	O	C	K	T	X
I	S	P	B	M	N	O	A	Y	D
E	C	B	F	A	D	K	T	P	F
S	A	Q	X	T	O	S	E	U	L
L	L	D	D	I	M	A	C	S	S
I	K	L	Q	C	X	S	M	Q	H